

**Process for the selective removal of contaminants from water**

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**Abstract**

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The present invention relates to a process for the selective removal of contaminants from water, e.g. from waste water (effluent), contaminated ground water or drinking water. The process is that water is treated with a reaction partner in the form of a solids preparation which is capable of chemical interaction with the pollutant to form a water-insoluble reaction product and the water-insoluble reaction product and the solids are separated. The solids preparation used can be hydrophobic or hydrophilic, depending on the pollutant to be removed. Biodegradable hydrophobising agents are preferably used, such as natural fatty acids or alkanes. It is further advantageous if the hydrophobic solids preparation contains the starting material or the reaction product of a dispersing chemical reaction. Calcium oxide or an aluminium alcoholate can serve as starting material for the dispersion by chemical reaction.

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